

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 02601 291536Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 SAJ-01 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /088 W
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R 291514Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4662
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMCONSUL KRKAOW
AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 2601

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ETRD, PL, UR

SUBJECT: GIEREK ON TERMS OF TRADE WITH USSR AND MEAT SHORTAGE

1. A NORMALLY RELIABLE JOURNALIST WHO VIEWED ON CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION GIEREK'S APRIL 25 MEETING WITH LEADING NEWSPAPER EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS, TOLD US THAT THERE WERE TWO QUESTIONS ON ECONOMIC SUBJECTS. THE FIRST ASKED ABOUT THE IMPACT UPON THE POLISH ECONOMY OF THE INCREASED PRICE OF PETROLEUM AND OTHER RAW MATERIALS, BUT WITHOUT MENTIONING THE SOVIET UNION. GIEREK REPLIED THAT TWO WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES ARE MAJOR EXPORTERS OF RAW MATERIALS, AND POLAND IS ONE OF THEM. HE ADDED THAT THE INCREASED PRICE POLAND IS GETTING FOR ITS COAL

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PAGE 02 WARSAW 02601 291536Z

FROM CEMA ALLIES PUTS IT IN AN EVEN BETTER POSITION THAN BE-

FORE, BUT CAUTIONED WITH A SMILE THAT HE DID NOT WANT THIS TALKED ABOUT TOO LOUDLY.

2. ASKED ABOUT THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION, GIEREK SAID THAT THE GOP HAD BADLY UNDERESTIMATED THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF LAST YEAR'S BAD CROP YEAR, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO MILK AND MEAT PRODUCTION. AS AN EXAMPLE HE SAID THAT THE LATE HAY CROP HAD BEEN SO BAD THAT IT WAS ALL BULK AND NO NOURISHMENT AND THIS HAD CONTRIBUTED TO A LOWERING OF MILK PRODUCTION AND LOWER BUTTERFAT CONTENT IN MILK. GIEREK SAID THAT THE GOP HAD CUT BACK ON MEAT EXPORTS AND WAS INCREASING IMPORTS, INCLUDING FROM OTHER WP COUNTRIES, IN ORDER TO EASE THE SITUATION.

3. THE SOURCE COMMENTED THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT THE GDR WAS "LENDING" POLAND MEAT AND BUTTER ON ACCOUNT AGAINST FUTURE COAL DELIVERIES.
DAVIES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, PETROLEUM, RAW MATERIALS, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, PRICES, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975WARSAW02601
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750150-0454
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975045/aaaaaeyz.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <05 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GIEREK ON TERMS OF TRADE WITH USSR AND MEAT SHORTAGE
TAGS: PINT, ETRD, PL, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006